

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205993

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, BE

SUBJECT: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR AMBASSADORS

REF: (A) STATE 202267; (B) STATE 204581

1. REFS A AND B GIVE DETAILS WHICH HAVE GOVERNED PREPAR-
AT,ON HERE OF DRAFT STATEMENTS OF GOALS AND TASKS FOR EACH
AMBASSADOR. DRAFT TEXT FOLLOWS BELOW FOR YOUR COMMENT.
PLEASE RESPOND ASAP, BUT NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 6 IN ANY
EVENT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR AMBASSADOR -
BELGIUM

I. MAINTENANCE OF BELGIAN SUPPORT FOR NATO

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--ENCOURAGE CONTINUED BELGIAN PARTICIPATION IN ALLIED
DEFENSE EFFORTS WITH A MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT SUFFICIENT TO
FULFILL ITS NATO ROLE.

--STRESS WITH OPINION LEADERS THE IMPACT OF BELGIAN PER-
FORMANCE IN DEFENSE BUDGETING AND MILITARY EFFORTS ON OTHER
NATO MEMBERS.

--PRESS FOR BELGIAN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE PERCENT DEFENSE SPENDING INCREASE AIM, AND OF THE SHORT AND LONG-TERM DEFENSE IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES AGREED AT THE NAC SUMMIT.

II. PROMOTION OF US-EC DIALOGUE

--THROUGH CLOSE CONSULTATIONS, URGE AN ACTIVE BELGIAN ROLE DURING THEIR PRESIDENCY OF THE EC COUNCIL IN THE LAST HALF OF 1977.

III. STRENGTHENING OF SUPPORT FOR EAST-WEST INITIATIVES

--ENCOURAGE BELGIAN SUPPORT FOR EAST-WEST INITIATIVES LIKE SALT, MBFR, CTB, AND THE CSCE BELGRADE REVIEW CONFERENCE THAT AFFECT THEIR VITAL SECURITY INTERESTS.

--EMPHASIZE EQUALLY TO BELGIAN LEADERS THE CONTINUITY OF THE FUNDAMENTAL US COMMITMENT TO EUROPEAN DEFENSE VIA NATO.

IV. CONTINUATION OF BELGIAN SUPPORT ON ECONOMIC ISSUES

--AS CALLED FOR, STRESS THAT THE US TAKES MOST SERIOUSLY ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE FREE WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM; AND
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THE NEED FOR CLOSER COORDINATION IN THE PRESENT CLIMATE ON ISSUES SUCH AS MACROECONOMIC POLICY THAT WERE TREATED AT THE LONDON SUMMIT.

--IF NEED BE, POINT OUT THAT WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO OBJECTION TO EC REPRESENTATION AT THE ECONOMIC SUMMITS, BUT MUST LEAVE THAT DECISION TO THE EUROPEANS.

--PROMOTE CONTINUED BELGIAN SUPPORT, AS A COUNTRY OF OUTWARD-LOOKING INTERESTS ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE, FINANCE, AND ENERGY ISSUES, INCLUDING NUCLEAR ISSUES LIKE NON-PROLIFERATION.

--SEEK MUTUAL ACCOMMODATION ON THE SABENA ISSUE, AND WORK TO LIMIT THE POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACT OF THIS CIVIL AVIATION QUESTION ON OTHER AREAS WHERE WE WANT BELGIAN SUPPORT.

--WORK FOR PRESERVATION OF A RECEPTIVE CLIMATE FOR US DIRECT INVESTORS. BE ALERT TO AND DISCOURAGE ANY EVENTUAL DISCRIMINATORY ACTION AGAINST AMERICAN-AFFILIATED FIRMS, AND ENCOURAGE US FIRMS TO ADAPT THEIR MANAGEMENT AND LABOR

PRACTICES TO BELGIAN REQUIREMENTS AND NORMS.

--ACTIVELY PROMOTE OUR COMMERCIAL OBJECTIVES THROUGH THE
VEHICLE OF THE COUNTRY COMMERCIAL PROGRAM.

V. IMPROVEMENT OF BILATERAL COOPERATION ON OTHER GLOBAL
ISSUES

--WHEN IT IS APPROPRIATE TO DO SO, BEGIN CONSULTATIONS WITH
BELGIUM AS A TRADITIONAL EXPORTER OF AR;AMENTS ON US CON-
VENTIONAL ARMS RESTRAINT INITIATIVES.

--CONTINUE CLOSE COORDINATION ON MATTERS AFFECTING ZAIRE,
RWANDA, AND BURUNDI, GIVEN BELGIUM'S REMAINING INTERESTS
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IN THESE AREAS. END TEXT. VANCE

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